Operationalisation of first phase of Karwar Naval Base

799. SHRI K.B. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the first phase of the Naval Base in Karwar is likely to become operational;

(b) what is the amount spent so far;

(c) the amount required to complete the first phase; and

(d) when will the next phase be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) By October, 2005.

(b)Rs. 1457.58 crore.

(c) Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs. 2459.20 crore to complete the first phase.

(d) No definite time-frame can be given. The present Government approval is for first phase only.

Selling of missiles to other countries

800. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has agreed in principle to sell Aakash, Trishul, Nag Missiles to other countries of the world;

(b) whether DRDO has created a separate wing to deal with marketing these missiles; and

(c) what steps the Ministry has taken to make India a pioneer in the defence technology in the world?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Ministry has taken following steps to strengthen development of defence technology:

Enhancing synergy between development and production agencies